

**United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Center for Veterinary Biologics
P. O. Box 844
Ames, IA 50010**

1. **Reagent Name:** *Leptospira icterohaemorrhagiae* Challenge Culture
2. **Strain or Source:** CF-1, NVSL No. 11403
3. **Lot Number:** Identified by date of preparation.
4. **Fill Date:** Cultures are prepared every 6 to 16 weeks from *L. icterohaemorrhagiae*-infected hamsters.
5. **Expiration Date:** Use within 1 year from labeled date.

Precautions: *Leptospira* spp. are classified as a biosafety level 2 pathogen. Handle under a biological safety hood while wearing gloves. Use face shield when inoculating animals.

6. **Intended Use:** Challenge material for *L. icterohaemorrhagiae* testing.
7. **Instructions for Use:** Upon receipt, subculture in fresh semisolid P80-BA medium before inoculating hamsters as described in Supplemental Assay Method (SAM) 610. *L. icterohaemorrhagiae* should be transferred through hamsters a minimum of three times before initiating a potency test according to **SAM 610**.
8. **Test of Reagent:** Cultures are obtained from infected hamsters challenged with *L. icterohaemorrhagiae* according to **SAM 610**. Cultures are negative for extraneous bacteria when incubated on blood agar plates at 37°C. Cultures are checked for serological identity.
9. **Container Size, Type, Weight, or Volume:** 16-mm x 125-mm screw-capped tubes containing 10 mL P80-BA semisolid medium with viable *L. icterohaemorrhagiae*.
10. **Storage Conditions:** Store at room temperature (20°- 25°C). After subculture, store at room temperature after dinger zones (foci of leptospiral growth) are apparent.
11. **CVB Technical Contact:** Bacteriology Section, Center for Veterinary Biologics, (515) 337-6140 or FAX (515) 337-7673.
12. **Origin and Passage History:** Origin: Puerto Rico, dog isolate. Walter Reed Army Institute of Research through a commercial laboratory (1969). This strain is hamster virulent.

13. Method of Preparation: Liver tissue and kidneys from an *L. icterohaemorrhagiae*-infected hamster are homogenized and diluted in phosphate-buffered saline containing 1% bovine serum albumin. Dilutions of the tissue suspension are inoculated onto semisolid P80-BA medium and incubated at 28°- 30°C for 2-4 weeks, or until dinger zones are apparent. Cultures are stored at room temperature (20°- 25°C) after dinger zones appear.

14. Other: None.

Reagent orders and feedback should be sent *including phone number* to the following email address: CVB@aphis.usda.gov

Reagent orders forms (APHIS 2018) are available from:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/cvb_forms

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